

Municipal Update: Emergency Accommodations

For the period of January 10 – 19, 2022

Date of issue: January 20, 2022

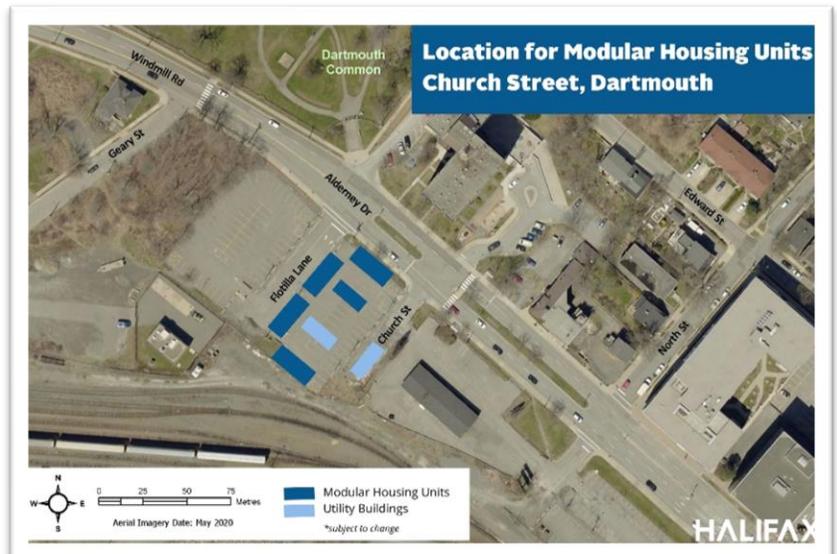
Municipal updates will be issued on a weekly basis to provide progress reports on efforts to establish emergency accommodations sites in Dartmouth and Halifax. These updates will be provided until modular units have been installed at both sites by the municipality and the Province of Nova Scotia has begun to place individuals at the sites and provide wrap around services. Depending upon the status of progress, frequency of updates may vary.

Topline update

- **NOTE: Exact timing for occupancy at both the emergency accommodations sites is dependent upon the Province of Nova Scotia, which is responsible for determining placement of individuals and providing wrap-around services onsite through a service provider.**

Dartmouth site

- Occupancy was approved for the four modular bedroom units (total capacity 24 persons) on Jan. 13; provincial service provider facilitated placement of individuals on Jan. 16.
- Modification of the modular unit to accommodate the two barrier-free bedrooms (with total capacity for two individuals) and single washroom is ongoing and is anticipated to be ready for occupancy by early February.
- Modification of the modular unit to accommodate the commercial kitchen has been impacted by supply chain issues. Completion of this work is expected late March. Out of the Cold staff are using alternative solutions until the full kitchen is available.
- Most individuals who have been accommodated at the Gray Arena, which has been used as a temporary emergency shelter for the past several months, have moved to the Dartmouth modular site. Alternate accommodations have been provided by the province to those individuals at the arena who did not relocate to the modular units. All residents have now moved and the process has begun to prepare the arena for re-opening to the general public. Details regarding status will be shared once available.



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Halifax site

- With the Dartmouth site now completed, the design and construction team has shifted focus to completing the Halifax modular unit site.
- Six modular units, an accessible modular unit and a number of support units, for a total of nine (9) units, will be installed on a portion of the Centennial Pool parking lot accessed from Cogswell Street.
- This site will be able to accommodate 38 individuals, based on single occupancy.
- The construction team is proceeding with design and construction documents. Lessons learned from efforts at the Dartmouth site will be of benefit to expedite completion of the Halifax site.
- The municipality continues to work with partners to complete the work as quickly as possible.



Crisis accommodations funding

- The municipality has provided \$70,000 from the funding approved by Regional Council to a coalition of 11 community service providers for use as crisis funding for hotel stays to support those experiencing homelessness. In conjunction with service providers, the municipality is also directly covering the cost of hotels rooms for some individuals. An additional allocation from the funding approved by Regional Council will be provided to this group in the coming days.
- Between September and the end of the first week of January, 109 people have accessed hotel rooms via this funding, for a total of 2,496 nights.

For more information about ongoing efforts by the municipality to support the province in its efforts to help address homelessness in our region visit halifax.ca/addressinghomelessness